

Message Text

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ACTION IO-11

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 FEA-01 ACDA-10 CEQ-01 CIAE-00 DOTE-00

EPA-04 EUR-12 HEW-06 HUD-02 INR-07 INT-05 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 NSF-02 OIC-02 PA-02 PM-04 PRS-01

SAJ-01 OES-05 SP-02 SS-15 TRSE-00 USIA-15 AID-05

COME-00 EB-07 FRB-01 XMB-04 OPIC-06 CIEP-02 LAB-04

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TAGS: ECE SENV

SUBJECT: FOURTH SESSION SENIOR ADVISORS TO ECE GOVERNMENTS ON
ENVIRONMENTAL PROBLEMS (SAEP), FEB 9-13, 1976

REF: GENEVA 1003, ENV/R.12

1. SUMMARY: PRINCIPAL RESULTS SAEP MEETING WERE REFORM OF ORGANIZATIONAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE SYSTEM TO PERMIT CLOSER SUPERVISION OF PROGRAM, DECISION TO SEEK BROADER DISSEMINATION OF SAEP DOCUMENTS TO WIDE OUTSIDE ENVIRONMENTAL AUDIENCE. IN LINE WITH CSCE FINAL ACT, SENIOR ADVISORS' WORK PROGRAM WILL PLACE PRIMARY EMPHASIS ON ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT AND LONG-RANGE TRANSPORT OF AIR POLLUTANTS. APART FROM BRIEF POLITICAL STATEMENT BY SOVIET REP REPORTED GENEVA 1003, THERE WERE NO FURTHER POLITICAL INTERVENTIONS AND SESSION PROCEEDED IN BUSINESS-LIKE POSITIVE DIRECTION WITH SUPPORT EXPRESSED BY BOTH EAST AND EST DELEGATIONS FOR MAIN LINES OF SAEP ACTIVITY. END SUMMARY.

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2. REPRESENTATIVES OF 27 MEMBER-STATES AT SAEP'S

FOURTH SESSION HEARD OPENING REMARKS BY ECE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY STANOVIK (GENEVA 1003) ON IMPORTANCE OF ECE ENVIRONMENTAL ACTIVITIES, DEALT WITH SAEP AGENDA (ENV/R.12) COMPLETED ANNUAL SESSION OF GROUP WITH POSITIVE SPIRIT IN EVIDENCE. SENIOR ADVISERS REACHED CONSENSUS ON 1976-77 ACTIVITIES BASED ON REVIEW OF LENGTHY WORK PROGRAM AND CAREFUL APPORTIONMENT OF SECRETARIAT TO ASSIGN PRIORITIES TO AND PARTICIPATE IN WORK. AS MEANS OF BETTER ORGANIZING AND FOCUSING WORK PROGRAM, SAEP ADOPTED US SUGGESTION TO RESTRUCTURE AND STREAMLINE AGENDA, AND, ON ONE-YEAR TRIAL BASIS, CANADIAN FORMAT FOR DISPLAYING AND APPRAISING INDIVIDUAL PROJECT ACTIVITY. SENIOR ADVISERS ALSO DECIDED TO ENCOURAGE WIDER DISSEMINATION OF RESULTS OF SAEP WORK TO INTERESTED ENVIRONMENTAL GROUPS BE DERESTRICTING DOCUMENTS AND GIVING SECRETARIAT DISCRETION TO CIRCULATE THEM IN ABSENCE OF NEGATIVE DECISION BY SAEP.

3. REFLECTING HIGH DEGREE OF INTEREST IN LINKAGE BETWEEN ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT, GROUP TOOK SPECIAL NOTE OF MARCH 8-11, 1976 AD HOC MEETING ON ENERGY CONSERVATION UNDER DIRECT SPONSORSHIP OF COMMISSION, AGREED TO TABLE THEIR DOCUMENT ENV/R.43 ON ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS OF ENERGY, AND UNDERTOOK TO ASSURE EFFECTIVE ENVIRONMENTAL INPUTS TO THAT MEETING. IN LIGHT INCLUSION OF NUCLEAR POWER IN E/ECE/883 ON USE OF ENERGY IN ECE REGION, AND SCHEDULED TABLING OF REVISION OF THAT DOCUMENT AT MARCH ENERGY MEETING, SAEP AGREED THAT, WITH EXCEPTION ONGOING PROJECT "ENVIRONMENTAL ASPECTS OF ENERGY PRODUCTION AND USE WITH PARTICULAR REFERENCE TO NEWTECHNOLOGY" THERE IS NO BAR TO SAEP CONSIDERATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL ASPECTS OF NUCLEAR AS WELL AS OTHER FORMS OF ENERGY, BUT ONLY IF AREA NOT BEING COVERED BY OTHER INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS AND ONLY AFTER PREPARATION OF SPECIFIC STUDY PROPOSALS.

4. SOVIET AND EAST EUROPEAN REPS GAVE SPECIAL SUPPORT TO RESULTS OF ROTTERDAM SEMINAR ON "ECOLOGICAL ASPECTS OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PLANNING" AND URGED FOLLOW-UP IN THIS AND RELATED PROJECTS IN WORK PROGRAM. GROUP SELECTED AS TOPIC FOR NEXT YEAR'S IN-DEPTH POLICY DEBATE "ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT" AS LOGICAL FOLLOW-UP TO ROTTERDAM TOPIC UNCLASSIFIED

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DISCUSSION AT THIS SESSION. SAEP ALSO ACCEPTED WITH MODIFICATIONS AND AS FLEXIBLE GUIDELINES PROCEDURE FOR SELECTING TOPICS FOR POLICY DEBATE AND COMMON FORMAT FOR COUNTRY MONOGRAPHS CONTAINED IN ENV/R.37/ADD.2.

5. US REP (LINDSEY GRANT, OES) NOTED URGENCY OF REPLIES TO UNEP QUESTIONNAIRE ON STRATOSPHERIC OZONE (FLUOROCARBONS) FROM THOSE GOVERNMENTS WHICH HAD NOT YET SUBMITTED DATA,

AND HE MADE SAME REQUEST PRIVATELY TO CHIEF SOVIET DELEGATE (PROF. A. RIABCHIKOV, MOSCOW UNIVERSITY), WHO WAS NON-COMMITAL.

6. US REITERATE INVITATION FOR PARTICIPATION IN ECE SEMINAR IN WASHINGTON JUNE 14-26, 1976, ON ROLE OF TRANSPORTATION IN URBAN PLANNING, DEVELOPMENT AND ENVIRONMENT, AND INDICATED CONTINUED LEADERSHIP ROLE IN TASK FORCES, RESPECTIVELY, ON NOISE AND FINE PARTICULATES. FRENCH REP EXTENDED INVITATION TO ALL DELEGATIONS TO SEND REPRESENTATIVES TO ECE SEMINAR ON NON-WASTE TECHNOLOGY SCHEDULED TO TAKE PLACE IN PARIS, NOVEMBER 29-DECEMBER 4, 1976, AND SECRETARIAT STRESSED TIMETABLE WHICH REQUIRES DESIGNATION OF RAPPORTEURS AND TITLES OF CONTRIBUTED PAPERS FOR THAT SEMINAR THIS MONTH. SOVIETS TOOK INITIATIVE AS LEAD COUNTRY IN PRESENTING DRAFT WORK PROGRAM FOR TASK FORCE ON ECONOMIC ASSESSMENT ON ENVIRONMENTAL DAMAGE.

7. AT OUR INITIATIVE, SENIOR ADVISERS DISCUSSED ISSUE OF POTENTIAL CONFLICT BETWEEN DETAILED ENVIRONMENTAL PROGRAM RECOMMENDED BY EXECUTIVE SECRETARY IN DOCUMENT E/ECE/900 AND SAEP WORK PROGRAM DEVELOPED AT THIS SESSION. NO CONSENSUS REACHED, BUT EXECUTIVE SECRETARY STANOVNIK PARTICIPATED IN DISCUSSION AND TOOK NOTE OF CONCERNS EXPRESSED BY VARIOUS COUNTRIES.

8. FORMAL US DEL REPORT WILL COVER DETAILED ACTIONS ON PROPOSED PROGRAMS. BRUNGART

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